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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/005,985	11/12/2001	Gene E. Nacey	569.013	9262

35195 7590 04/29/2005

FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
409 BROAD STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15143

EXAMINER

BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/005,985

Applicant(s)

NACEY, GENE E.

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Final Rejection

Response to Amendment

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment as received on 01-26-05.

2. Claims 1-37 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

3. Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 25, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuban et al., Patent #4,994,908, hereinafter Kuban.

4. Claims 3-12, 15-24, and 26-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuban and Crawford, Jr., Patent #5,331,549, hereinafter Crawford.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 25, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuban et al., Patent #4,994,908, hereinafter Kuban.

7. With regard to claim 1, which teaches an apparatus for the graphical display of room information, the apparatus comprising, a display and an arrangement for producing a cell for being viewed on the display, the cell conveying information regarding a room, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display

comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room.

8. With regard to claims 2, 14, which teach an arrangement for producing a matrix for being displayed on the display, the matrix being adapted to depict the rooms for which information is conveyed, said arrangement for producing a cell comprising an arrangement for producing a plurality of cells in conjunction with said matrix, wherein each cell corresponds to a different one of the rooms for which information is conveyed, Kuban further teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3, a matrix that is used for depicting the room information where the cells provide information for one or the plurality of rooms.

9. With regard to claim 13, which teaches an apparatus for the graphical display of room information, the apparatus comprising, a display and an arrangement for producing a cell for being viewed on the display, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 13, further teaching the cell having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for modifying the modifiable attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through column 16, line 2, the maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID, and enters the room for processing, thereby changing the status of the room.

10. With regard to claim 25, which teaches a method of graphically displaying room information, the method comprising, the displaying a matrix, Kuban teaches, in figure 3, the display of a matrix of rooms with associated status information. With regard to claim

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25, further teaching a display and an arrangement for producing a cell, in the matrix, for being viewed on the display, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 25, further teaching the cell having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for modifying the modifiable attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through column 16, line 2, the maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID, and enters the room for processing, thereby changing the status of the room.

11. With regard to claim 37, which teaches a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for the graphical display of room information, the method comprising, the displaying a matrix, Kuban teaches, in figure 3, the display of a matrix of rooms with associated status information. With regard to claim 37, further teaching a display and an arrangement for producing a cell, in the matrix, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 37, further teaching the cell having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for modifying the modifiable attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through column 16, line 2, the maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID, and enters the room for processing, thereby changing the status of the room.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 3-12, 15-24, and 26-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuban and Crawford, Jr., Patent #5,331,549, hereinafter Crawford.

14. With regard to claims 3, 15, and 26, Kuban teach the system for conveying room information for a plurality of rooms to a remote location in a matrix form (see column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3). Kuban, however, doesn't specifically mention the cells being adapted to display secondary information associated with each attribute of the cell. Crawford teaches a system for monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban, but further teaches that upon selection additional information can be displayed for a specific element (see column 2, lines 44-47, column 6, lines 34-47, and figures 3 and 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kuban and Crawford before him at the time the invention was made to modify the remote monitoring system of Kuban to include the focused information screen as did Crawford. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this would allow for specific information (possibly a summery of room charges, or special services requested) regarding the selected room to be displayed to the people at the manager location.

15. With regard to claims 4, 16, and 28, which teach the secondary information being displayed solely to an authorized user of the apparatus, Kuban further teaches, in column 4, lines 45-61, the manager being able to view specific information, and the maid/inspector being able to see their own specific subset of information.

16. With regard to claims 5 and 17, which teach the cell being adapted to modify an attribute upon a prompt from an authorized user of the apparatus, Kuban further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-53, the system being capable of input (ex: changing to a cleaned status).

17. With regard to claims 6, 18, and 30, which teach the room being a hospital room, Kuban teaches, in column 5, lines 5-25, the communications or room status being used in a hotel/hospital environment.

18. With regard to claims 7, 19, and 31, which teach the room being a hotel room, Kuban teaches, in column 5, lines 5-25, the communications or room status being used in a hotel/hospital environment.

19. With regard to claims 8, 20, and 32, which teach the cell depicting a bed, Crawford further teaches, in column 2, lines 44-47 and figures 3 and 4, the display of bed information.

20. With regard to claims 9, 21, and 33, which teach the cell indicating if the room is unoccupied, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-39, the cell depicting either a occupied or vacant for the room.

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21. With regard to claims 10, 22, and 34, which teach the cell indicating if the room is occupied, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-39, the cell depicting either a occupied or vacant for the room.

22. With regard to claims 11, 23, and 35, which teach the cell indicating whether the room is in a stat condition, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 46-51, the matrix displaying a need to be made up indication.

23. With regard to claims 12, 24, and 36, which teach the cell indicating whether a bed within the room is being made, column 4, lines 40-45, the system knowing that a room is in the process of being made up/inspected.

24. With regard to claim 29, which teach authorization of a user being determined by comparing a password provided by the user to a databank of passwords, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, lines 42-61, the user entering an access code and ID to implement the system.

Response to Arguments

25. The arguments filed on 1-26-05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

26. The applicants' argue that the references do not teach a "cell conveying information regarding a room".

27. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells, where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room. A "cell" is defined as "The intersection of a row and a column in a spreadsheet" (see page 91, of Microsoft

Computer Dictionary). The cells of the Kuban reference can further be shown by looking at column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3, which teaches the room information being tabulated with corresponding status information, adjacent to the room number, in a row/column structure.

28. The applicants' argue that there is no teaching or suggestion in Crawford that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kuban to arrive at the present invention.

29. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that one would have been motivated to make such a combination because this would allow for specific information, in the cells, (possibly a summery of room charges, or special services requested) regarding the selected room to be displayed to the people at the manager location. Crawford's system for monitoring room status information (see column 2, lines 34-47) is further analogous to that of Kuban.

Conclusion

30. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

31. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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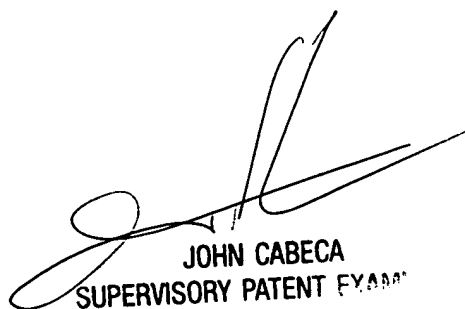
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

32. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

33. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

34. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

4-19-05
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